

Message Text

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64

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SNM-02 L-03 SCCT-01 /018 W

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P R 042011Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO DEA HQTS WASHDC PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

SECSTATE WASHDC 2153

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HQTS/EOIL/PLASE; EMBASSY/DEA; STATE FOR SY

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: THEFT OF OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT WEAPON - DEA

1. ON JULY 31, 1975, DEA SAID RHYN C. TRYAL AND S/A JAIME FORTEZA WERE AT THE BANDERITA RESTAURANT, MORENO 1126-39, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA. SAIC TRYAL AND S/A FORTEZA HAD EATEN LUNCH AND WERE WAITING TO CONTACT A SOURCE OF INFORMATION RELATIVE TO AN ON-GOING INVESTIGATION.

2. AT APPROXIMATELY 4:25 P.M., SAIC TRYAL WAS ATTEMPTING TO MAKE A TELEPHONE CALL FROM A TELEPHONE LOCATED NEAR THE CASH REGISTER. S/A FORTEZA WAS SEATED AT A TABLE LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 15 FEET AWAY. S/A FORTEZA OBSERVED A COUPLE, SUSPECT NO. 1 AND NO. 2, ENTER THE RESTAURANT. SUSPECT NO. 1 IS DESCRIBED AS A MALE CAUCASIAN, APPROXIMATELY 40-45 YOA, 5'8" TALL, CURLY BLACK HAIR, MEDIUM COMPLEXION, WEARING A DARK BLACK SPORTCOAT, DARK SLACKS, AND A LIGHT COLORED SHIRT. SUSPECT NO. 1 APPEARED TO BE THE TEAM LEADER. SUSPECT NO. 2 IS DESCRIBED AS A FEMALE CAUCASIAN, APPROXIMATELY 35 YOA, LIGHT BROWN HAIR, WEARING A DARK RED LONG OVERCOAT AND CARRYING A BLACK LADIES PURSE.

3. FOR A FEW MINUTES, SUSPECT NO. 1 AND NO. 2 BEHAVED AS IF DECIDING WHERE TO SIT, AT WHICH TIME SUSPECT NO. 3 CAME FROM AN AREA BEHIND S/A FORTEZA AND APPROACHED SUSPECT

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NO. 1 AND NO. 2. SUSPECT NO. 3 IS DESCRIBED AS A MALE

CAUCASIAN, APPROXIMATELY 35 YOA, APPROXIMATELY 5'8" TALL, LONG BLACK CURLY HAIR, DARK SMOOTH COMPLEXION, WEARING A LIGHT GREY DOUBLE BREASTED SUIT, A LIGHT COLORED SHIRT, RED TIE, AND DARK CARDIGAN SWEATER. SUSPECT NO. 3 WAS OBSERVED TO BE CARRYING A SMALL BLACK BAG WITH A RED STRIPE.

4. SUSPECT NO. 1 ASKED NO. 3 IF THEY COULD BE SERVED SOME FOOD, AT WHICH TIME NO. 3 RESPONDED "YES, I DON'T SEE WHY NOT". (ENGLISH TRANSLATION. NO. 1 AND NO. 2 THEN WALKED TOWARDS THE FRONT DOOR WHILE NO. 3 PASSED BEHIND S/A FORTEZA'S TABLE AND APPROACHED SAIC TRYAL.

5. SUSPECT NO. 1 THEN APPROACHED S/A FORTEZA AND DREW WHAT APPEARED TO BE A .32 OR .38 CALIBER REVOLVER WITH A 2" BARREL. THE REVOLVER HAD BEEN SECRETED IN THE WAIST BAND ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE SUSPECT'S TROUSERS. SUSPECT NO. 1 ORDERED S/A FORTEZA NOT TO MOVE AND SEARCHED THE S/A FOR WEAPONS WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

6. AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME TIME, SUSPECT NO. 3 APPROACHED SAIC TRYAL AND STATED THAT THIS WAS A HOLD-UP, NOT TO MOVE, AND TO PLACE HIS HANDS ON THE COUNTER. SUSPECT NO. 2 THEN SEARCHED SAIC TRYAL AND DISCOVERED THE OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT ISSUE SMITH AND WESSON, MODEL 60 REVOLVER, SERIAL NO. R67581, WHICH HE REMOVED AND PLACED IN THE PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED BLACK BAG. SAIC TRYAL COULD OBSERVE SUSPECT NO. 1 STANDING NEAR S/A FORTEZA WITH A REVOLVER IN HIS RIGHT HAND. SUSPECT NO. 2 WAS OBSERVED STANDING CLOSE TO THE FRONT DOOR.

7. SUSPECT NO. 3 THEN REQUESTED SAIC TRYAL'S DOCUMENTS WHICH WERE PROFICED (DIPLOMATIC CARNET) AND IMMEDIATELY RETURNED. SUSPECT NO. 3 STARTED TO REMOVE SAIC TRYAL'S WATCH, BUT WAS STOPPED BY SUSPECT NO. 1.

8. THE MANAGER OF THE RESTAURANT WAS THEN ORDERED BY SUSPECT NO. 3 TO OPEN THE CASH REGISTER AT WHICH TIME 14,000. ARGENTINE PESOS (APPROXIMATELY \$400.00 AT PARALLEL MARKET RATE) WERE REMOVED AND WERE PLACED IN THE BLACK BAG. NO. 3 THEN ORDERED SAIC TRYAL TO SIT DOWN AT S/A FORTEZA'S TABLE WITH HIS BACK TO THE FRONT DOOR.

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9. SUSPECT NO. 1 ADVISED THE SPECIAL AGENTS AND RESTAURANT PERSONNEL NOT TO MOVE FOR FIVE MINUTES AT WHICH TIME SUSPECT NO. 3 WAS OBSERVED TO HAND THE BLACK BAG TO SUSPECT NO. 2, WHO IMMEDIATELY EXITED THE RESTAURANT. SUSPECT NO. 3 REMAINED A FEW SECOND BY THE FRONT DOOR, BID THE S/AS AND RESTAURANT STAFF GOODBYE, APOLOGIZED, AND ALSO DEPARTED. SUSPECT NO. 1 REMAINED STANDING NEAR S/A FORTEZA FOR APPROX-

IMATELY THIRTY SECONDS AND THEN ALSO DEPARTED.

10. WHEN SUSPECT NO. 3 EXITED THE RESTAURANT, S/A FORTEZA OBSERVED A WHITE PEUGEOT, WHICH EVIDENTLY HAD BEEN PARKED NEAR THE FRONT DOOR, DEPART THE AREA. IT IS THOUGHT THAT THIS VEHICLE WAS UTILIZED BY SUSPECT NO. 3 TO MAKE HIS ESCAPE WITH THE HELP OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FOURTH SUSPECT.

11. AS SOON AS SUSPECT NO. 1 LEFT THE RESTAURANT, ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO OBSERVE ANY VEHICLES UTILIZED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

12. SAIC TRYAL IMMEDIATELY RETURNED TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AND ADVISED THE AMBASSADOR, DCM, AND OTHER CONCERNED MISSION ELEMENTS OF THE ABOVE.

13. THE ABOVE INCIDENT WAS REPORTED TO THE 4TH PRECINCT OF THE ARGENTINE FEDERAL POLICE ON 8-1-75. ALSO, ON THE SAME DATE, DEPUTY REGIONAL DIRECTOR FRANK MACOLINI WAS TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED OF THE INCIDENT.
DECONTROL PERMISSIBLE BY DEA ONLY
FROM RHYN C. TRYAL/SAIC
HILL

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 04 AUG 1975
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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